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Social development

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Asif **Garayev** (Azerbaijan)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 17 September 2010, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled:

"Social development:

"(a) Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

"(b) Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family;

"(c) Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing;

"(d) United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all"

and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Third Committee considered the item at its 1st to 4th, 10th, 35th, 43rd, 49th and 51st meetings, on 4, 5, 12 and 28 October and on 9, 19 and 23 November 2010. At its 1st to 4th meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on sub-items (a) to (d). An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/65/SR.1-4, 10, 35, 43, 49 and 51).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing: comprehensive overview (A/65/157);

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(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing (A/65/158);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly (A/65/168);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on keeping the promise: realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond (A/65/173);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive study on the impact of the converging world crises on social development (A/65/174);

(f) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade (A/65/172);

(g) Letter dated 8 July 2010 from the representative of Namibia to the Secretary-General, transmitting resolutions adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union at its 122nd Assembly (A/65/89);

(h) Letter dated 13 August 2010 from the representative of Uzbekistan to the Secretary-General (A/65/307);

(i) Letter dated 24 August 2010 from the representative of Brazil to the President of the General Assembly (A/65/336);

(j) Letter dated 23 September 2010 from the representative of Uzbekistan to the Secretary-General (A/65/393).

4. At the 1st meeting, on 4 October, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs made a statement. The Acting Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and the Director of the Institute for Lifelong Learning, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), made introductory statements (see A/C.3/65/SR.1).

5. At the same meeting, the Acting Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development and the Director of the Institute for Lifelong Learning, UNESCO, responded to questions posed and comments made by the representatives of Pakistan, Malaysia and Norway (see A/C.3/65/SR.1).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/65/L.8 and Rev.1

6. At the 10th meeting, on 12 October, the representative of Yemen, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing" (A/C.3/65/L.8), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 57/167 of 18 December 2002, in which it endorsed the Political Declaration and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, its resolution 58/134 of 22 December 2003, in which it took note, inter alia, of the road map for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and its resolutions 60/135 of 16 December 2005, 61/142 of 19 December 2006, 62/130 of 18 December 2007, 63/151 of 18 December 2008 and 64/132 of 18 December 2009,

"*Recognizing* that, in many parts of the world, awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action remains limited or non-existent, which limits the scope of implementation efforts,

"*Taking note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing as well as the current status of the social situation, well-being, participation in development and rights of older persons,

"*Reaffirming* the Political Declaration and the Madrid Plan of Action,

"1. *Encourages* Governments to pay greater attention to building capacity to eradicate poverty among older persons, in particular older women, by mainstreaming ageing issues into poverty eradication strategies and national development plans, and to include both ageing-specific policies and ageing-mainstreaming efforts in their national strategies;

"2. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts to develop national capacity to address their national implementation priorities identified during the review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, and invites Member States that have not done so to consider a step-by-step approach to developing capacity that includes the setting of national priorities, the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, research, data collection and analysis and the training of necessary personnel in the field of ageing;

"3. *Also encourages* Member States to place particular emphasis on choosing national priorities that are realistic, feasible and have the greatest likelihood of being achieved in the years ahead and to develop targets and indicators to measure progress in the implementation process;

"4. *Encourages* all Member States to further implement the Madrid Plan of Action as an integral part of their national development plans and poverty eradication strategies;

"5. *Invites* Member States to identify key priority areas for the remainder of the first decade of implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, including empowering older persons and promoting their rights, raising awareness of issues on ageing and building national capacity on ageing;

"6. *Encourages* Governments that have not done so to designate focal points for handling follow-up of national plans of action on ageing;

"7. *Invites* Governments to conduct their ageing-related policies through inclusive and participatory consultations with relevant stakeholders

and social development partners, in the interest of developing effective policies creating national policy ownership and consensus-building;

"8. *Calls upon* Governments to ensure, as appropriate, conditions that enable families and communities to provide care and protection to persons as they age and to evaluate improvement in the health status of older persons, including on a gender-specific basis, and to reduce disability and mortality;

"9. *Invites* Member States to ensure that older persons have access to information about their rights so as to enable them to participate fully and justly in their societies and to claim full enjoyment of all human rights;

"10. *Calls upon* Member States to develop their national capacity for monitoring and enforcing the rights of older persons, in consultation with all sectors of society, including organizations of older persons through, inter alia, national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights where applicable;

"11. *Also calls upon* Member States to strengthen and incorporate a gender perspective into all policy actions on ageing, as well as to eliminate and address discrimination on the basis of age and gender, and recommends that Member States engage with all sectors of society, including women's groups and organizations of older persons, in changing negative stereotypes about older persons, in particular older women, and promote positive images of older persons;

"12. *Further calls upon* Member States to address the well-being and adequate health care of older persons, as well as any cases of neglect, abuse and violence against older persons, by designing more effective prevention strategies and stronger laws and policies to address these problems and their underlying factors;

"13. *Encourages* Member States to consider how best the international framework of norms and standards can ensure the full enjoyment of the rights of older persons, including, as appropriate, the possibility of instituting new policies, instruments or measures to further improve the situation of older persons;

"14. *Calls upon* Member States to take concrete measures to further protect and assist older persons in emergency situations, in accordance with the Madrid Plan of Action;

"15. *Stresses* that, in order to complement national development efforts, enhanced international cooperation is essential to support developing countries in implementing the Madrid Plan of Action, while recognizing the importance of assistance and the provision of financial assistance;

"16. *Encourages* the international community to enhance international cooperation to support national efforts to eradicate poverty, in keeping with internationally agreed goals, in order to achieve sustainable social and economic support for older persons;

"17. *Also encourages* the international community to support national efforts to forge stronger partnerships with civil society, including organizations of older persons, academia, research foundations, community-based

organizations, including caregivers, and the private sector, in an effort to help to build capacity on ageing issues;

"18. *Encourages* the international community and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to support national efforts to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing in order to better understand the challenges and opportunities presented by population ageing and to provide policymakers with more accurate and more specific information on gender and ageing;

"19. *Recommends* that Member States reaffirm the role of United Nations focal points on ageing, increase technical cooperation efforts, expand the role of the regional commissions on ageing issues and provide added resources for those efforts, facilitate the coordination of national and international non-governmental organizations on ageing and enhance cooperation with academia on a research agenda on ageing;

"20. *Reiterates* the need for additional capacity-building at the national level in order to promote and facilitate further implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, as well as the results of its first review and appraisal cycle, and in that connection encourages Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

"21. *Requests* the United Nations system to strengthen its capacity to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, national implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action;

"22. *Recommends* that ongoing efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, take into account the situation of older persons;

"23. *Decides* to establish an open-ended working group, open to all States Members of the United Nations, for the purpose of considering the feasibility of an international convention on the rights of older persons, and requests the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support in this regard;

"24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including the situation of the rights of older persons in all regions of the world."

7. At its 49th meeting, on 19 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing" (A/C.3/65/L.8/Rev.1), submitted by Yemen on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, as well as Albania, Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Norway, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine and the United States of America.

8. At the same meeting, the Secretary made a statement concerning the programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

9. Also at its 49th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/65/L.8/Rev.1 (see para. 27, draft resolution I).

10. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Yemen (on behalf of members of the Group of 77 and China), Belgium (on behalf of the European Union) and the Russian Federation (see A/C.3/65/SR.49).

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/65/L.9 and Rev.1

11. At the 10th meeting, on 12 October, the representative of Mongolia, on behalf also of Bangladesh, Cameroon and Chile, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all" (A/C.3/65/L.9), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 56/116 of 19 December 2001, by which it proclaimed the ten-year period beginning on 1 January 2003 the United Nations Literacy Decade, its resolution 57/166 of 18 December 2002, in which it welcomed the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade, and its resolutions 59/149 of 20 December 2004, 61/140 of 19 December 2006 and 63/154 of 18 December 2008,

"*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in which Member States resolved to ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys will have equal access to all levels of education, which requires a renewed commitment to promote literacy for all,

"*Reaffirming* the emphasis placed by the 2005 World Summit on the critical role of both formal and non-formal education in the achievement of poverty eradication and other development goals as envisaged in the Millennium Declaration, in particular basic education and training for achieving universal literacy, and the need to strive for expanded secondary and higher education as well as vocational education and technical training, especially for girls and women, the creation of human resources and infrastructure capabilities and the empowerment of those living in poverty,

"*Reaffirming also* that quality basic education is crucial to nation-building, that literacy for all is at the heart of basic education for all and that creating literate environments and societies is essential for achieving the goals of eradicating poverty, reducing child mortality, curbing population growth, achieving gender equality and ensuring sustainable development, universal respect for human rights, peace and democracy,

"*Convinced* that literacy is crucial to the acquisition by every child, youth and adult of the essential life skills that will enable them to address the challenges that they can face in life and represents an essential condition of lifelong learning, which is an indispensable means for effective participation in the knowledge societies and economies of the twenty-first century,

"*Affirming* that the realization of the right to education, especially for girls, contributes to the promotion of human rights, gender equality and the eradication of poverty,

"*Welcoming* the considerable efforts that have been made so far by Member States and the international community to address the objectives of the Decade and to implement the International Plan of Action, in particular in the three priority areas for the remaining years of the Decade identified through the mid-Decade review, namely, mobilizing stronger commitment to literacy, reinforcing effective literacy programme delivery and harnessing new resources for literacy,

"*Reaffirming* the right of indigenous peoples, in particular children, to use their own language and to have non-discriminatory access to all levels and forms of education provided by States,

"*Noting with deep concern* that 796 million adults do not have basic literacy skills, 69 million children of primary school age remain out of school, and millions more young people leave school without a level of literacy adequate for productive and active participation in their societies, that the issue of literacy may not be sufficiently high on national agendas to generate the kind of political and economic support required to address global literacy challenges and that the world is unlikely to meet those challenges if the present trends continue,

"*Deeply concerned* about the persistence of the gender gap in education, which is reflected by the fact that nearly two thirds of the world's adult illiterates are women,

"*Concerned* about the challenges that the financial and economic crisis pose to education budgets and international funding for education, with a possible negative effect on spending for literacy programmes,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade, including the strategic priorities outlined therein for the next phase of the Decade and beyond;

"2. *Also takes note* of the 2008 publication *The Global Literacy Challenge: a profile of youth and adult literacy at the mid-point of the United Nations Literacy Decade 2003-2012*, the Education for All *Global Monitoring Report 2010: Reaching the Marginalized*, the first *Global Report on Adult Learning and Education*, prepared for the Sixth International Conference on Adult Education, held in December 2009, the 2009 review of the Literacy Initiative for Empowerment, the synthesis report of the Eighth E-9 Ministerial Review Meeting on Education for All, held in June 2010, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization programme reports and other relevant documents;

"3. *Further takes note* of the outcome documents of the five regional preparatory conferences held in 2008 and 2009 in preparation for the 2009 Sixth International Conference on Adult Education, as well as the summary outcomes of the Regional Conferences in Support of Global Literacy, held in

Azerbaijan, China, India, Mali, Mexico and Qatar in 2007 and 2008, which indicate that the second half of the Decade should develop appropriate networks for greater regional collaboration;

"4. *Recognizes* that a renewed collective commitment and stronger international partnerships in support of literacy efforts at the national level will be needed if the objectives of the Decade are to be met;

"5. *Calls upon* Member States, their development partners, the international donor community, the private sector and civil society to further scale up quality literacy efforts and consider the post-2012 strategy for addressing youth and adult literacy challenges, bearing in mind that just over two years remain of the United Nations Literacy Decade and that the target date of 2015 for the achievement of the Education for All goals and the Millennium Development Goals is approaching;

"6. *Calls upon* Member States to further reinforce political will, giving literacy higher priority within their educational planning and budgeting;

"7. *Appeals* to all Governments to develop reliable literacy data and information and more inclusive policymaking environments and to devise innovative strategies for reaching the groups disproportionately affected by illiteracy, in particular the poorest and most marginalized groups, and for seeking alternative formal and non-formal approaches to learning with a view to achieving the goals of the Decade;

"8. *Appeals* to Governments to take full account of the use of languages in different contexts by promoting multilingual approaches to literacy, through which learners may acquire initial literacy in the language they know best and in additional languages as needed;

"9. *Urges* all Governments to take the lead in coordinating the activities of the Decade at the national level, bringing all relevant national actors together in a sustained dialogue and collaborative action on policy formulation, implementation and evaluation of literacy efforts;

"10. *Appeals* to all Governments to strengthen national and subnational professional institutions in their countries and to foster greater collaboration among all literacy partners with a view to developing greater capacity to design and deliver high-quality literacy programmes for youth and adults;

"11. *Appeals* to all Governments and to economic and financial organizations and institutions, both national and international, to lend greater financial and material support to the efforts to increase literacy and achieve the goals of Education for All and those of the Decade;

"12. *Requests* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to reinforce its coordinating and catalysing role in the fight against illiteracy;

"13. *Invites* Member States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to support the implementation of the above priorities within the framework of the

internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;

"14. *Calls upon* Member States, in the implementation of the International Plan of Action in the final phase of the Decade, to give adequate attention to the cultural diversity of minorities and indigenous peoples;

"15. *Requests* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in cooperation with national Governments, to take immediate, concrete steps to address the needs of countries with high illiteracy rates and/or with large populations of illiterate adults, with particular regard to women, including through programmes that promote low-cost and effective literacy provisions;

"16. *Notes* the contribution made by the Sixth International Conference on Adult Education, held in Belém, Brazil, in December 2009, to the implementation of the United Nations Literacy Decade, and welcomes the Belém Framework for Action adopted at the Conference, including its recommendation to seek investment of at least 6 per cent of gross national product in education and work towards increased investment in adult learning and education;

"17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to seek the views of Member States on the progress achieved in implementing their national programmes and plans of action for the Decade and to submit the next progress report on the implementation of the International Plan of Action to the General Assembly in 2013;

"18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled 'Social development', the sub-item entitled 'United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all'."

12. At its 35th meeting, on 28 October, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all" (A/C.3/65/L.9/Rev.1), submitted by Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, the Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, the Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland,

Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

13. Also at its 35th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/65/L.9/Rev.1 (see para. 27, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution A/C.3/65/L.10 and Rev.1

14. At the 10th meeting, on 12 October, the representative of the Mongolia, on behalf also of Bangladesh, Guatemala and Nicaragua, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Cooperatives in social development" (A/C.3/65/L.10) which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 64/136 of 18 December 2009, by which it proclaimed the year 2012 the International Year of Cooperatives, and encouraged all Member States, as well as the United Nations and all other relevant stakeholders, to take advantage of the International Year of Cooperatives as a way of promoting cooperatives and raising awareness of their contribution to social and economic development,

"1. *Decides* to convene, at its sixty-sixth session, one plenary meeting of the General Assembly devoted to the launch of the International Year of Cooperatives 2012;

"2. *Also decides* to hold, prior to the plenary meeting, an informal, interactive round-table discussion on a theme to be decided by the President of the General Assembly in consultation with Member States, which will be open to the participation of Member States, observers, organizations of the United Nations, cooperatives and civil society organizations;

"3. *Further decides* that one representative from the cooperative movement shall orally present a summary of the informal round-table discussion to the General Assembly at the beginning of the plenary meeting;

"4. *Invites* Member States to consider being represented by cooperative delegations in addressing the plenary on that occasion, as well as at the informal round-table discussion, bearing in mind the principle of gender balance;

"5. *Also invites* all Member States to take prompt action to establish national mechanisms, such as national committees, to prepare for, observe and follow up the Year, in particular for the purpose of planning, stimulating and harmonizing the activities of the governmental and non-governmental agencies and organizations concerned with the preparation for and observance of the International Year of Cooperatives."

15. At its 35th meeting, on 28 October, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Cooperatives in social development" (A/C.3/65/L.10/Rev.1), submitted by Albania, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, China, Colombia, the Congo, Costa Rica,

the Czech Republic, Cyprus, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Panama, the Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Saint Kitts and Nevis, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

16. At the same meeting, the Secretary made a statement concerning the programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

17. Also at its 35th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/65/L.10/Rev.1 (see para. 27, draft resolution III).

18. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (see A/C.3/65/SR.35).

D. Draft resolution A/C.3/65/L.11 and Rev.1

19. At the 10th meeting, on 12 October, the representative of Yemen, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly" (A/C.3/65/L.11), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly entitled 'World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world', held at Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

"*Reaffirming* that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session, as well as a continued global dialogue on social development issues, constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

"*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the development goals contained therein, as well as the commitments made at major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, including the commitments made at the 2005 World Summit,

"*Recalling also* its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

"*Recalling further* its resolution 60/209 of 22 December 2005 on the implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006),

"*Recalling* its resolution 63/303 of 9 July 2009 entitled 'Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development',

"*Reaffirming* Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/18 entitled 'Promoting full employment and decent work for all' and Economic and Social Council resolution 2010/12 entitled 'Promoting social integration', and welcoming the decision of the Commission for Social Development to have 'poverty eradication' as priority theme for the 2011-2012 review,

"*Noting with appreciation* the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2006 of the Economic and Social Council, entitled 'Creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development',

"*Noting* that the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, with its four strategic objectives, has an important role to play, as reaffirmed in the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization and in the Global Jobs Pact, in achieving the objective of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including its objective of social protection,

"*Emphasizing* the need to enhance the role of the Commission for Social Development in the follow-up and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,

"*Recognizing* that a people-centred approach must be at the centre of economic and social development,

"*Expressing deep concern* that attainment of the social development objectives can be hindered by the global economic and financial crisis, as well as challenges brought about by the ongoing food and energy crises,

"*Recognizing* the complex character of the current global food crisis as a combination of several major factors, both structural and conjunctural, especially the question of agricultural subsidies that are trade distorting, which is also negatively affected by, inter alia, environmental degradation, drought and desertification, global climate change, natural disasters and the lack of the necessary technology, and recognizing also that a strong commitment from national Governments and the international community as a whole is required to confront the major threats to food security,

"*Affirming* its strong support for fair globalization and the need to translate growth into eradication of poverty and commitment to strategies and policies that aim to promote full, freely chosen and productive employment and decent work for all and that these should constitute a fundamental component of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, and reaffirming that employment creation and decent work should be incorporated into

macroeconomic policies, taking fully into account the impact and social dimension of globalization, the benefits and costs of which are often unevenly shared and distributed,

"*Recognizing* that social inclusion is a means for achieving social integration and is crucial for fostering stable, safe, harmonious, peaceful and just societies and for improving social cohesion so as to create an environment for development and progress,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

"2. *Welcomes* the reaffirmation by Governments of their will and commitment to continue implementing the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action, in particular to eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and foster social integration to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all;

"3. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the Copenhagen commitments and the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, are mutually reinforcing and that the Copenhagen commitments are crucial to a coherent people-centred approach to development;

"4. *Reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development continues to have the primary responsibility for the follow-up and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly and that it serves as the main United Nations forum for an intensified global dialogue on social development issues, and calls upon Member States, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and civil society to enhance their support for its work;

"5. *Expresses deep concern* that the world financial and economic crisis, the world food and energy crisis, and continuing food insecurity and climate change, as well as the lack of results so far in the multilateral trade negotiations and a loss of confidence in the international economic system, have negative implications for social development, in particular for the achievement of poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and social integration;

"6. *Calls upon* donors and international financial institutions to support developing countries, in line with their national priorities and strategies, in achieving their social development by, inter alia, providing debt relief and refraining from imposing conditionalities that restrict the policy space of national Governments, in particular in the area of social expenditure and social protection programmes;

"7. *Recognizes* that poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration are interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and that an enabling environment therefore needs to be created so that all three objectives can be pursued simultaneously;

"8. *Also recognizes* that the broad concept of social development affirmed by the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly has been weakened in national and

international policymaking and that, while poverty eradication is a central part of development policy and discourse, further attention should be given to the other commitments agreed to at the Summit, in particular those concerning employment and social integration, which have also suffered from a general disconnect between economic and social policymaking;

"9. *Acknowledges* that the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), launched after the World Summit for Social Development, has provided the long-term vision for sustained and concerted efforts at the national and international levels to eradicate poverty;

"10. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the commitments made by Governments during the first Decade has fallen short of expectations, and welcomes the proclamation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017) by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/205 of 19 December 2007 in order to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Millennium Development Goals;

"11. *Emphasizes* that the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit, the 2005 World Summit, the high-level plenary meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and the International Conference on Financing for Development, in its Monterrey Consensus, have reinforced the priority and urgency of poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda;

"12. *Also emphasizes* that poverty eradication policies should attack poverty by addressing its root and structural causes and manifestations, and that equity and the reduction of inequalities need to be incorporated in those policies;

"13. *Stresses* that an enabling environment is a critical precondition for achieving equity and social development and that, while economic growth is essential, entrenched inequality and marginalization are an obstacle to the broad-based and sustained growth required for sustainable, inclusive and people-centred development, and recognizes the need to balance and ensure complementarity between measures to achieve growth and measures to achieve economic and social equity in order for there to be an impact on overall poverty levels;

"14. *Also stresses* that stability in global financial systems and corporate social responsibility and accountability, as well as national economic policies that have an impact on other stakeholders, are essential in creating an enabling international environment to promote economic growth and social development;

"15. *Recognizes* the need to promote respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to address the most pressing social needs of people living in poverty, including through the design and development of appropriate mechanisms to strengthen and consolidate democratic institutions and governance;

"16. *Reaffirms* the commitment to the empowerment of women and gender equality, as well as to the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into all development efforts, recognizing that these are critical for achieving sustainable development and for efforts to combat hunger, poverty and disease and to strengthen policies and programmes that improve, ensure and broaden the full participation of women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life, as equal partners, and to improve their access to all resources needed for the full exercise of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms by removing persistent barriers, including ensuring equal access to full and productive employment and decent work, as well as strengthening their economic independence;

"17. *Stresses* that effective participation of people in civic, social, economic and political activities is essential in order to achieve the eradication of poverty and the promotion of social inclusion. In this regard, Governments should increase participation of citizens and communities in the planning and implementation of social integration policies and strategies aimed at achieving poverty eradication, social integration, and full employment and decent work for all;

"18. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote opportunities for full, freely chosen and productive employment, including for the most disadvantaged, as well as decent work for all, in order to deliver social justice combined with economic efficiency, with full respect for fundamental principles and rights at work under conditions of equity, equality, security and dignity, and further reaffirms that macroeconomic policies should, inter alia, support employment creation, taking fully into account the social impact and dimension of globalization;

"19. *Takes note with interest* of the adoption by the International Labour Conference on 10 June 2008 of the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, which acknowledges the particular role of the Organization in promoting a fair globalization and its responsibility to assist its members in their efforts, and the adoption by the International Labour Conference on 19 June 2009 of the Global Jobs Pact;

"20. *Reaffirms* that there is an urgent need to create an environment at the national and international levels that is conducive to the attainment of full and productive employment and decent work for all as a foundation for sustainable development and that an environment that supports investment, growth and entrepreneurship is essential to the creation of new job opportunities, and also reaffirms that opportunities for men and women to obtain productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity are essential to ensuring the eradication of hunger and poverty, the improvement of economic and social well-being for all, the achievement of sustained economic growth and sustainable development of all nations and a fully inclusive and equitable globalization;

"21. *Stresses* the importance of removing obstacles to the realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, in particular of peoples living under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, which adversely affect their social and economic development, including their exclusion from labour markets;

"22. *Reaffirms* the need to address all forms of violence, in its many manifestations, including domestic violence, particularly against women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities, recognizing that violence increases challenges to States and societies in the achievement of poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and social integration; and recognizes that crime, in all its forms and manifestations, poses increasing challenges to States and societies in the attainment of conditions conducive to social development and in fostering social cohesion while recognizing, protecting and valuing diversity;

"23. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations system to commit to mainstreaming the goal of full and productive employment and decent work for all in their policies, programmes and activities;

"24. *Requests* the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies, and invites financial institutions to support efforts to mainstream the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all in their policies, programmes and activities;

"25. *Recognizes* that promoting full employment and decent work also requires investing in education, training and skills development for women and men, and girls and boys, strengthening social protection and health systems and applying labour standards;

"26. *Also recognizes* that full and productive employment and decent work for all, which encompass social protection, fundamental principles and rights at work, tripartism and social dialogue, are key elements of sustainable development for all countries and are therefore a priority objective of international cooperation;

"27. *Stresses* that policies and strategies to achieve full employment and decent work for all should include specific measures to promote gender equality and foster social integration for social groups such as youth, persons with disabilities and older persons, as well as migrants and indigenous peoples, on an equal basis with others;

"28. *Also stresses* the need to allocate adequate resources for the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women in the workplace, including unequal access to labour market participation and wage inequalities, as well as reconciliation of work and private life for both women and men;

"29. *Reaffirms* its resolution 64/134 of 18 December 2009, proclaiming the year commencing on 12 August 2010 the International Year of Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding, and calls on all Member States and other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector and international cooperation agencies, to support activities at national, regional and international levels aiming at promoting the ideals of peace, freedom, progress and solidarity among youth in order to ensure social cohesion and youth development;

"30. *Encourages* States to design and implement strategies and policies for the creation of full and productive employment that is appropriately and adequately remunerated, and for the reduction of unemployment, and also encourages States to promote youth employment by, inter alia, developing and

implementing policies and strategies in collaboration with relevant stakeholders;

"31. *Also encourages* States to pursue efforts to promote the concerns of older persons and persons with disabilities and their organizations in the planning, implementing and evaluating of all development programmes and policies;

"32. *Stresses* that policies and programmes designed to achieve poverty eradication, full employment and decent work for all should include specific measures to foster social integration, including by providing marginalized socio-economic sectors and groups with equal access to opportunities and social protection;

"33. *Acknowledges* the important nexus between international migration and social development, and stresses the importance of enforcing labour law effectively with regard to migrant workers' labour relations and working conditions, inter alia, those related to their remuneration and conditions of health, safety at work and the right to freedom of association;

"34. *Recognizes* that, since the convening of the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995, advances have been made in addressing and promoting social integration, including through the adoption of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond and the Supplement thereto, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action;

"35. *Stresses* that the benefits of economic growth should be distributed more equitably, and that, in order to close the gap of inequality and avoid any further deepening of inequality, comprehensive social policies and programmes, including appropriate social transfer programmes, job creation and social protection systems, are needed;

"36. *Recognizes* the importance of providing social protection schemes for the formal and informal economy as instruments to achieve equity, inclusion and stability and cohesion of societies, and emphasizes the importance of supporting national efforts aimed at bringing informal workers into the formal economy;

"37. *Stresses* that poverty eradication policies should, inter alia, ensure that people living in poverty have access to education, health, water and sanitation and other public and social services, and access to productive resources, including credit, land, training, technology, knowledge and information, and that citizens and local communities participate in decision-making on social development policies and programmes in this regard;

"38. *Recognizes* that the social integration of people living in poverty should encompass addressing and meeting their basic human needs, including nutrition, health, water, sanitation, housing and access to education and employment, through integrated development strategies;

"39. *Reaffirms* that social integration policies should seek to reduce inequalities, promote access to basic social services, education for all and

health care, eliminate discrimination, increase the participation and integration of social groups, particularly youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, and address the challenges posed by globalization and market-driven reforms to social development in order for all people in all countries to benefit from globalization;

"40. *Urges* Governments, with the cooperation of relevant entities, to develop systems of social protection and to extend or broaden, as appropriate, their effectiveness and coverage, including for workers in the informal economy, recognizing the need for social protection systems to provide social security and support labour-market participation, invites the International Labour Organization to strengthen its social protection strategies and policies on extending social security coverage, and urges Governments, while taking account of national circumstances, to focus on the needs of those living in, or vulnerable to, poverty and give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems;

"41. *Requests* the United Nations system to support national efforts of Member States to achieve inclusive social development, particularly by fostering eradication of poverty, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and social integration, in a coherent and coordinated manner, and to promote exchanges of good practices in this regard;

"42. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote the rights of indigenous peoples in the areas of education, employment, housing, sanitation, health and social security, and notes the attention paid to those areas in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

"43. *Recognizes* the need to formulate social development policies in an integral, articulated and participative manner, recognizing poverty as a multidimensional phenomenon, calls for interlinked public policies on this matter, and underlines the need for public policies to be included in a comprehensive development and well-being strategy;

"44. *Acknowledges* the important role that the public sector can play as an employer and in developing an environment that enables the effective generation of full and productive employment and decent work for all;

"45. *Also acknowledges* the vital role that the private sector can play in generating new investments, employment and financing for development and in advancing efforts towards full employment and decent work;

"46. *Recognizes* that priority should be given to agricultural and non-farm sectors and that steps should be taken to anticipate and offset the negative social and economic consequences of globalization and to maximize its benefits for poor people living and working in rural areas, while paying special attention to the development of microenterprises, small- and medium-sized enterprises, particularly in rural areas, as well as subsistence economies, to secure their safe interaction with larger economies;

"47. *Also recognizes* the need to give priority to investing in and further contributing to sustainable agricultural development and microenterprises, small- and medium-sized enterprises and entrepreneurship cooperatives and other forms of social enterprises and the participation and entrepreneurship of

women as means to promote full productive employment and decent work for all;

"48. *Reaffirms* the commitments made in respect of 'Meeting the special needs of Africa' at the 2005 World Summit, underlines the call of the Economic and Social Council for enhanced coordination within the United Nations system and the ongoing efforts to harmonize the current initiatives on Africa, and requests the Commission for Social Development to continue to give due prominence in its work to the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

"49. *Also reaffirms* that each country has the primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and underlines the importance of adopting effective measures, including new financial mechanisms, as appropriate, to support the efforts of developing countries to achieve sustained economic growth, sustainable development, poverty eradication and the strengthening of their democratic systems;

"50. *Further reaffirms*, in this context, that international cooperation has an essential role in assisting developing countries, including the least developed countries, in strengthening their human, institutional and technological capacity;

"51. *Stresses* that the international community shall enhance its efforts to create an enabling environment for social development and poverty eradication through increasing market access for developing countries, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, financial aid and a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem;

"52. *Also stresses* that international trade and stable financial systems can be effective tools to create favourable conditions for the development of all countries and that trade barriers and some trading practices continue to have negative effects on employment growth, particularly in developing countries;

"53. *Acknowledges* that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger;

"54. *Urges* developed countries that have not yet done so in accordance with their commitments to make concrete efforts towards meeting the targets of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.2 per cent of their gross national product to least developed countries, and encourages developing countries to build on the progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help to meet development goals and targets;

"55. *Urges* Member States and the international community to fulfil all their commitments to meet the demands for social development, including social services and assistance, that have arisen from the global financial and economic crisis, which particularly affects the poorest and most vulnerable;

"56. *Welcomes* the contribution to the mobilization of resources for social development by the initiatives taken on a voluntary basis by groups of Member States based on innovative financing mechanisms, including those that aim to provide further drug access at affordable prices to developing countries on a sustainable and predictable basis, such as the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNITAID, as well as other initiatives, such as the International Finance Facility for Immunization and the Advance Market Commitments for Vaccines, and notes the New York Declaration of 20 September 2004, which launched the Action against Hunger and Poverty initiative and called for further attention to raise funds urgently needed to help meet the Millennium Development Goals and to complement and ensure the long-term stability and predictability of foreign aid;

"57. *Reaffirms* that social development requires the active involvement of all actors in the development process, including civil society organizations, corporations and small businesses, and that partnerships among all relevant actors are increasingly becoming part of national and international cooperation for social development, and also reaffirms that, within countries, partnerships among the Government, civil society and the private sector can contribute effectively to the achievement of social development goals;

"58. *Underlines* the responsibility of the private sector, at both the national and the international levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, regarding not only the economic and financial implications, but also the development, social, gender and environmental implications of their activities, their obligations towards their workers and their contributions to achieving sustainable development, including social development, and emphasizes the need to take concrete actions on corporate responsibility and accountability, including through the participation of all relevant stakeholders, inter alia, for the prevention or prosecution of corruption;

"59. *Stresses* the importance of promoting corporate social responsibility and accountability, encourages responsible business practices, such as those promoted by the Global Compact, invites the private sector to take into account not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of its undertakings, and underlines the importance of the International Labour Organization Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy;

"60. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the regional commissions, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental forums, within their respective mandates, to continue to integrate into their work programmes and give priority attention to the Copenhagen commitments and the Declaration on the tenth anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development, to continue to be actively involved in their follow-up and to monitor the achievement of those commitments and undertakings;

"61. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a comprehensive study on the impact of the converging world crises on social development, in particular, for the achievement of

poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and social integration;

"62. *Invites* the Commission for Social Development to emphasize in its review of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action the increased exchange of national, regional and international experiences, the focused and interactive dialogues among experts and practitioners, and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned, and to address, inter alia, the potential impact of the ongoing world financial and economic crisis and the world food and energy crises on social development goals;

"63. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the sub-item entitled 'Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly', and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the question to the Assembly at that session."

20. At its 49th meeting, on 19 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly" (A/C.3/65/L.11/Rev.1), submitted by the representative of Yemen on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, as well as Belarus, Kazakhstan, Mexico and Turkey.

21. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/65/L.11/Rev.1 (see para. 27, draft resolution IV).

22. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Belgium (on behalf of the European Union), the United States of America and Japan (see A/C.3/65/SR.49).

E. Draft resolution A/C.3/65/L.12 and Rev.1

23. At the 10th meeting, on 12 October, the representative of the Philippines, on behalf also of Chile and the United Republic of Tanzania, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond" (A/C.3/65/L.12), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, in which persons with disabilities are recognized as both development agents and beneficiaries in all aspects of development,

"*Recalling also* its previous resolutions on the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in which it recognized the collective responsibility of Governments to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level, and stressing the duty of Member States to achieve greater justice and equality for all, in particular persons with disabilities,

"*Encouraged* by the outcome of the High-level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals, calling for enhanced and concrete efforts to realize the Goals for all, including persons with disabilities,

"*Gravely concerned* that persons with disabilities are often subject to multiple or aggravated forms of discrimination and are still largely invisible in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Noting* that the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals, provide an opportunity to strengthen the policies and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities, thereby contributing to the realization of a 'society for all' in the twenty-first century,

"*Noting also* that persons with disabilities make up an estimated 10 per cent of the world's population, of whom 80 per cent live in developing countries, and recognizing the importance of international cooperation and its promotion in support of national efforts, in particular for developing countries,

"*Concerned* that the lack of data and information on disability and the situation of persons with disabilities at the national level contributes to the invisibility of persons with disabilities in official statistics, presenting an obstacle to achieving development planning and implementation that is inclusive of persons with disabilities,

"1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General entitled 'Keeping the promise: realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond';

"2. *Takes note* of the recommendation contained in the report of the Secretary-General that the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities provide comprehensive coverage of the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of persons with disabilities, and that an update of the World Programme of Action should reflect the holistic and comprehensive human rights approach set forth in the Convention;

"3. *Also takes note* of the mention in the report of the Secretary-General that the World Programme of Action could be updated in order to more fully reflect the core principles that animate the current international disability rights framework, including respect for inherent dignity, individual autonomy, freedom to make one's own choices, and independence of persons; full and effective participation and inclusion in society; respect for difference and acceptance of persons with disabilities as part of human diversity and humanity; equality of opportunity; accessibility; equality between men and women; and respect for the evolving capacities of children with disabilities and respect for the right of children with disabilities to preserve their identities;

"4. *Further takes note* of the recommendation in the report of the Secretary-General that the inclusion of the principles and goals of the Convention should guide the revision of the World Programme of Action and the Standard Rules in the development of domestic disability law and policy;

"5. *Welcomes with appreciation* the outcome of the High-level Plenary Meeting, entitled 'Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals', particularly the recognition that policies and actions must also focus on persons with disabilities, so that they benefit from progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals;

"6. *Urges* Member States, and invites international organizations and regional organizations, including regional integration organizations, financial institutions, the private sector and civil society, in particular organizations representing persons with disabilities, as appropriate, to promote the realization of the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities, inter alia, by explicitly including disability issues and persons with disabilities in national plans and tools designed to contribute to the full realization of the Goals;

"7. *Urges* the United Nations system to make a concerted effort to integrate disability issues into its work, and in this regard encourages the Inter-Agency Support Group on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to continue working to ensure that development programmes, including Millennium Development Goals policies, processes and mechanisms, are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

"8. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that their international cooperation, including through international development programmes, is inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

"9. *Calls upon* Governments and United Nations bodies and agencies to include disability issues and persons with disabilities in reviewing progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals and to step up efforts to include in their assessment the extent to which persons with disabilities are able to benefit from efforts to achieve the Goals;

"10. *Also calls upon* Governments to enable persons with disabilities to participate as agents and beneficiaries of development, in particular in all efforts aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals, by ensuring that programmes and policies, namely on eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensuring environmental sustainability and developing a global partnership for development, are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

"11. *Emphasizes* the importance of the participation of persons with disabilities at all levels of policymaking and development, which is critical to informing policymakers on the situation of persons with disabilities, the barriers they may face and ways to overcome obstacles to the full and equal enjoyment of their rights, to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals for all, including persons with disabilities, and to their socio-economic advancement;

"12. *Encourages* international cooperation in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, including through global partnerships for development, which are crucial for the realization of the Goals for all, in particular for persons with disabilities;

"13. *Also encourages* Governments to develop and accelerate the exchange of information, guidelines and standards, best practices, legislative measures and government policies regarding the situation of persons with disabilities and disability issues, in particular as they relate to inclusion and accessibility;

"14. *Calls upon* Governments to build a knowledge base of data and information about the situation of persons with disabilities that could be used to enable development policy planning, monitoring, evaluation and implementation to be disability-sensitive, in particular in the realization of the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities, and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General:

"(a) To continue to disseminate widely and promote the use of the *Guidelines and Principles for the Development of Disability Statistics* and the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses* and to facilitate technical assistance, within existing resources, including the provision of assistance for capacity-building of Member States, in particular to developing countries;

"(b) To submit during the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly information on the progress made towards ensuring that all Millennium Development Goal targets and indicators identify, monitor and evaluate the impact of related policies and programming on the situation of persons with disabilities;

"(c) To convene a high-level meeting on strengthening efforts to ensure accessibility for and inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of development efforts during the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly."

24. At its 43rd meeting, on 9 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond" (A/C.3/65/L.12/Rev.1), submitted by Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, China, Colombia, the Comoros, the Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

25. Also at its 43rd meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/65/L.12/Rev.1 (see para. 27, draft resolution V).

F. Draft decision proposed by the Chair

26. At its 51st meeting, on 23 November, on the proposal of the Chair, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the comprehensive study on the impact of the converging world crises on social development (A/65/174) (see para. 28).

III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

27. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/167 of 18 December 2002, in which it endorsed the Political Declaration[1] and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[2] its resolution 58/134 of 22 December 2003, in which it took note, inter alia, of the road map for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and its resolutions 60/135 of 16 December 2005, 61/142 of 19 December 2006, 62/130 of 18 December 2007, 63/151 of 18 December 2008 and 64/132 of 18 December 2009,

Recognizing that, in many parts of the world, awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action remains limited or non-existent, which limits the scope of implementation efforts,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General[3] on the follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing as well as the current status of the social situation, well-being, participation in development and rights of older persons,

1. *Reaffirms* the Political Declaration[1] and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;[2]

2. *Encourages* Governments to pay greater attention to building capacity to eradicate poverty among older persons, in particular older women, by mainstreaming ageing issues into poverty eradication strategies and national development plans, and to include both ageing-specific policies and ageing-mainstreaming efforts in their national strategies;

3. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts to develop national capacity to address their national implementation priorities identified during the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action and invites Member States that have not done so to consider a step-by-step approach to developing capacity that includes the setting of national priorities, the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, research, data collection and analysis and the training of necessary personnel in the field of ageing;

4. *Also encourages* Member States to overcome obstacles to the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action by devising strategies that take into account the entirety of the human life-course and foster intergenerational solidarity in order to increase the likelihood of greater success in the years ahead;

5. *Further encourages* Member States to place particular emphasis on choosing national priorities that are realistic, sustainable, feasible and have the

[1] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8-12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] A/65/157 and A/65/158.

greatest likelihood of being achieved in the years ahead and to develop targets and indicators to measure progress in the implementation process;

6. *Encourages* all Member States to further implement the Madrid Plan of Action as an integral part of their national development plans and poverty eradication strategies;

7. *Invites* Member States to identify key priority areas for the remainder of the first decade of implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, including empowering older persons and promoting their rights, raising awareness of issues on ageing and building national capacity on ageing;

8. *Recommends* that Member States increase awareness-raising of the Madrid Plan of Action, including by strengthening networks of national focal points on ageing, working with the regional commissions and enlisting the help of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to seek increased attention for ageing issues;

9. *Encourages* Governments that have not done so to designate focal points for handling follow-up of national plans of action on ageing;

10. *Invites* Governments to conduct their ageing-related policies through inclusive and participatory consultations with relevant stakeholders and social development partners, in the interest of developing effective policies creating national policy ownership and consensus-building;

11. *Calls upon* Governments to ensure, as appropriate, conditions that enable families and communities to provide care and protection to persons as they age and to evaluate improvement in the health status of older persons, including on a gender-specific basis, and to reduce disability and mortality;

12. *Encourages* Governments to continue their efforts to implement the Madrid Plan of Action and to mainstream the concerns of older persons into their policy agendas, bearing in mind the crucial importance of family intergenerational interdependence, solidarity and reciprocity for social development and the realization of all human rights for older persons, and to prevent age discrimination and provide social integration;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of strengthening intergenerational partnerships and solidarity among generations, and in this regard calls upon Member States to promote opportunities for voluntary, constructive and regular interaction between young people and older generations in the family, the workplace and society at large;

14. *Invites* Member States to ensure that older persons have access to information about their rights so as to enable them to participate fully and justly in their societies and to claim full enjoyment of all human rights;

15. *Calls upon* Member States to develop their national capacity for monitoring and enforcing the rights of older persons, in consultation with all sectors of society, including organizations of older persons through, inter alia, national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights where applicable;

16. *Also calls upon* Member States to strengthen and incorporate a gender perspective into all policy actions on ageing, as well as to eliminate and address discrimination on the basis of age and gender, and recommends that Member States

engage with all sectors of society, including women's groups and organizations of older persons, in changing negative stereotypes about older persons, in particular older women, and promote positive images of older persons;

17. *Further calls upon* Member States to address the well-being and adequate health care of older persons, as well as any cases of neglect, abuse and violence against older persons, by designing more effective prevention strategies and stronger laws and policies to address these problems and their underlying factors;

18. *Calls upon* Member States to take concrete measures to further protect and assist older persons in emergency situations, in accordance with the Madrid Plan of Action;

19. *Stresses* that, in order to complement national development efforts, enhanced international cooperation is essential to support developing countries in implementing the Madrid Plan of Action, while recognizing the importance of assistance and the provision of financial assistance;

20. *Encourages* the international community to enhance international cooperation to support national efforts to eradicate poverty, in keeping with internationally agreed goals, in order to achieve sustainable social and economic support for older persons;

21. *Also encourages* the international community to support national efforts to forge stronger partnerships with civil society, including organizations of older persons, academia, research foundations, community-based organizations, including caregivers, and the private sector, in an effort to help to build capacity on ageing issues;

22. *Encourages* the international community and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to support national efforts to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing in order to better understand the challenges and opportunities presented by population ageing and to provide policymakers with more accurate and more specific information on gender and ageing;

23. *Recognizes* the important role of various international and regional organizations that deal with training, capacity-building, policy design and monitoring at the national and regional levels in promoting and facilitating the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and acknowledges the work that is undertaken in various parts of the world, as well as regional initiatives, and institutes such as the International Institute on Ageing in Malta and the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna;

24. *Recommends* that Member States reaffirm the role of United Nations focal points on ageing, increase technical cooperation efforts, expand the role of the regional commissions on ageing issues and provide added resources for those efforts, facilitate the coordination of national and international non-governmental organizations on ageing and enhance cooperation with academia on a research agenda on ageing;

25. *Reiterates* the need for additional capacity-building at the national level in order to promote and facilitate further implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, as well as the results of its first review and appraisal cycle, and in that connection encourages Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund for

Ageing to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

26. *Requests* the United Nations system to strengthen its capacity to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, national implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, where appropriate;

27. *Recommends* that ongoing efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[4] take into account the situation of older persons;

28. *Decides* to establish an open-ended working group, open to all States Members of the United Nations, for the purpose of strengthening the protection of the human rights of older persons by considering the existing international framework of the human rights of older persons and identifying possible gaps and how best to address them, including by considering, as appropriate, the feasibility of further instruments and measures, and requests the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support within existing resources for the duration of its mandate;

29. *Also decides* that the open-ended working group shall:

(a) Meet at United Nations Headquarters in New York;

(b) Decide on its calendar and programme of work by consensus at an organizational meeting early in 2011;

30. *Invites* States and relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, including relevant human rights mandate holders and treaty bodies and the regional commissions, as well as intergovernmental and relevant non-governmental organizations with an interest in the matter, to make contributions to the work entrusted to the working group, as appropriate;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including the situation of the rights of older persons in all regions of the world.

[4] See resolution 55/2.

Draft resolution II
United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/116 of 19 December 2001, by which it proclaimed the ten-year period beginning on 1 January 2003 the United Nations Literacy Decade, its resolution 57/166 of 18 December 2002, in which it welcomed the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade,[1] and its resolutions 59/149 of 20 December 2004, 61/140 of 19 December 2006 and 63/154 of 18 December 2008,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[2] in which Member States resolved to ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys will have equal access to all levels of education, which requires a renewed commitment to promote literacy for all,

Reaffirming the Education for All goals, in particular goal 3, on ensuring that the learning needs of all young people and adults are met through equitable access to appropriate learning and life-skills programmes, and goal 4, on achieving a 50 per cent improvement in levels of adult literacy by 2015, especially for women, and equitable access to basic and continuing education for all adults,

Reaffirming also the emphasis placed by the 2005 World Summit on the critical role of both formal and non-formal education in the achievement of poverty eradication and other development goals as envisaged in the Millennium Declaration, in particular basic education and training for achieving universal literacy, and the need to strive for expanded secondary and higher education as well as vocational education and technical training, especially for girls and women, the creation of human resources and infrastructure capabilities and the empowerment of those living in poverty,

Reaffirming further that quality basic education is crucial to nation-building, that literacy for all is at the heart of basic education for all and that creating literate environments and societies is essential for achieving the goals of eradicating poverty, reducing child mortality, addressing population growth, achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women, ensuring sustainable development, peace and democracy, and promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Convinced that literacy is crucial to the acquisition by every child, young person and adult of the essential life skills that will enable them to address the challenges that they may face in life and represents an essential condition of lifelong learning, which is an indispensable means for effective participation in the knowledge societies and economies of the twenty-first century,

Affirming that the realization of the right to education, especially for girls, contributes to the promotion of human rights, gender equality and the eradication of poverty,

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[1] See A/57/218 and Corr.1.

[2] See resolution 55/2.

Recognizing the necessity of improving all aspects of the quality of education so that recognized and measurable learning outcomes are achieved by all, especially in the areas of literacy, numeracy, essential life skills and human rights education, thereby enabling all persons to excel,

Welcoming the considerable efforts that have been made so far by Member States and the international community to address the objectives of the Decade and to implement the International Plan of Action, in particular in the three priority areas for the remaining years of the Decade identified through the mid-Decade review, namely, mobilizing stronger commitment to literacy, reinforcing effective literacy programme delivery and harnessing new resources for literacy,

Recognizing the importance of removing barriers, outside and within education systems, so as to provide equitable educational and learning opportunities for all children,

Reaffirming the right of indigenous peoples to have non-discriminatory access to all levels and forms of education provided by States, and recognizing the importance of effective measures to promote access by indigenous individuals, in particular children, to education in their own language, when possible, as addressed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[3]

Noting with deep concern that, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 796 million adults do not have basic literacy skills and 69 million children of primary school age remain out of school, that millions more young people leave school without a level of literacy adequate for productive and active participation in their societies, that the issue of literacy may not be sufficiently high on national agendas to generate the kind of political and economic support required to address global literacy challenges and that the world is unlikely to meet those challenges if the present trends continue,

Deeply concerned about the persistence of the gender gap in education, which is reflected by the fact that, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, nearly two thirds of the world's non-literate adults are women,

Concerned about the challenges that the financial and economic crisis poses to education budgets and international funding for education, with a possible negative effect on spending for literacy programmes,

Recalling its resolution 64/290 of 9 July 2010 on the right to education in emergency situations,

Concerned that, according to United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization estimates, one third of the children not attending school are children with disabilities and that the literacy rate among adults with disabilities is as low as 3 per cent in some countries,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy

[3] Resolution 61/295, annex.

Decade,[4] including the strategic priorities outlined therein for the next phase of the Decade and beyond;

2. *Takes note* of the 2008 publication *The Global Literacy Challenge: a profile of youth and adult literacy at the mid-point of the United Nations Literacy Decade 2003-2012*, the Education for All *Global Monitoring Report 2010: Reaching the Marginalized*, the first *Global Report on Adult Learning and Education*, prepared for the Sixth International Conference on Adult Education, held in December 2009, the 2009 review of the Literacy Initiative for Empowerment, the synthesis report of the Eighth E-9 Ministerial Review Meeting on Education for All, held in Abuja in June 2010, and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization programme reports;

3. *Also takes note* of the outcome documents of the five regional preparatory conferences held in 2008 and 2009 in preparation for the 2009 Sixth International Conference on Adult Education, as well as the summary outcomes of the Regional Conferences in Support of Global Literacy, held in Azerbaijan, China, India, Mali, Mexico and Qatar in 2007 and 2008,[5] which indicate that in the second half of the Decade appropriate networks should be developed for greater regional collaboration;

4. *Recognizes* that a renewed collective commitment and stronger international partnerships in support of literacy efforts at the national level will be needed if the objectives of the Decade are to be met;

5. *Calls upon* Member States, their development partners, the international donor community, the private sector and civil society, in accordance with national law, to further scale up quality literacy efforts and consider the post-2012 strategy for addressing youth and adult literacy challenges, bearing in mind that just over two years remain of the United Nations Literacy Decade and that the target date of 2015 for the achievement of the Education for All goals and the Millennium Development Goals is approaching;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of continuing to implement national programmes and measures to eliminate illiteracy worldwide as part of the commitments made in the Dakar Framework for Action on Education for All,[6] adopted in 2000 at the World Education Forum, and in the Millennium Development Goals, and, in this regard, also recognizes the important contribution of South-South and triangular cooperation through, inter alia, innovative pedagogical methods in literacy;

7. *Calls upon* Member States to further reinforce political will, giving literacy higher priority within their educational planning and budgeting;

8. *Appeals* to all Governments to develop reliable literacy data and information and more inclusive policymaking environments and to devise innovative strategies for reaching the groups disproportionately affected by illiteracy, in particular the poor and those living in the most vulnerable situations,

[4] See A/65/172.

[5] Available from http://www.unesco.org/education/en/literacy/conferences.

[6] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26-28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

including persons with disabilities, and for seeking alternative formal and non-formal approaches to learning with a view to achieving the goals of the Decade;

9. *Appeals* to Governments to take full account of the use of languages in different contexts by promoting multilingual approaches to literacy, through which learners may acquire initial literacy in the language they know best and in additional languages as needed;

10. *Urges* all Governments to take the lead in coordinating the activities of the Decade at the national level, bringing all relevant national actors together in a sustained dialogue and collaborative action on policy formulation, implementation and evaluation of literacy efforts;

11. *Appeals* to all Governments to strengthen national and subnational professional institutions in their countries and to foster greater collaboration among all literacy partners with a view to developing greater capacity to design and deliver high-quality literacy programmes for youth and adults;

12. *Appeals* to all Governments and to economic and financial organizations and institutions, both national and international, to lend greater financial and material support to the efforts to increase literacy and achieve the goals of Education for All and those of the Decade;

13. *Requests* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to reinforce its coordinating and catalysing role in the fight against illiteracy;

14. *Invites* Member States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to support the implementation of the above priorities within the framework of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[2]

15. *Calls upon* Member States, in the implementation of the International Plan of Action[1] in the final phase of the Decade, to give adequate attention to the cultural diversity of minorities and indigenous peoples;

16. *Requests* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in cooperation with national Governments, to take immediate, concrete steps to address the needs of countries with high illiteracy rates and/or with large populations of illiterate adults, with particular regard to women and persons with disabilities, including through programmes that promote low-cost and effective literacy provisions;

17. *Notes* the contribution made by the Sixth International Conference on Adult Education, held in Belém, Brazil, in December 2009, to the implementation of the United Nations Literacy Decade, and welcomes the Belém Framework for Action adopted at the Conference;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to seek the views of Member States on the progress achieved in implementing their national programmes and plans of action for the Decade, undertake a final evaluation of the implementation of the Decade by Member States and other stakeholders and submit to the General Assembly in 2013 a final report on the implementation of the

International Plan of Action with specific recommendations for the post-Decade period;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Social development", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all".

Draft resolution III
Cooperatives in social development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 64/136 of 18 December 2009, by which it proclaimed the year 2012 the International Year of Cooperatives, and encouraged all Member States, as well as the United Nations and all other relevant stakeholders, to take advantage of the International Year of Cooperatives as a way of promoting cooperatives and raising awareness of their contribution to social and economic development,

1. *Decides* to convene, at its sixty-sixth session, one plenary meeting of the General Assembly devoted to the launch of the International Year of Cooperatives 2012, within existing resources;

2. *Also decides* to hold, prior to the plenary meeting, an informal, interactive round-table discussion among Member States, observers, organizations of the United Nations system, cooperatives and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council;

3. *Further decides* that the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, should decide on the theme of the informal round table as well as which Member State should chair the round-table discussion;

4. *Decides* that one representative of cooperatives, nominated by the President of the General Assembly in consultation with Member States and relevant representatives of cooperatives, shall orally present a summary of the informal round-table discussion to the General Assembly at the beginning of the plenary meeting;

5. *Invites* Member States to consider including representatives of cooperatives in their delegations or, as appropriate, being represented by representatives of cooperatives at the General Assembly plenary meeting on this occasion, as well as at the informal round-table discussion, bearing in mind the principle of gender balance;

6. *Invites* all Member States to consider taking action towards establishing national mechanisms, such as national committees, to prepare for, observe and follow up on the International Year of Cooperatives, in particular for the purpose of planning, stimulating and harmonizing the activities of the governmental and non-governmental agencies and organizations concerned with the preparations for and observance of the International Year.

Draft resolution IV
Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held at Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action[1] and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session,[2] as well as a continued global dialogue on social development issues, constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[3] and the development goals contained therein, as well as the commitments made at major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, including the commitments made at the 2005 World Summit[4] and at the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[5]

Recalling also its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling further its resolution 60/209 of 22 December 2005 on the implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006),

Recalling its resolution 63/303 of 9 July 2009 on the outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,

Reaffirming Economic and Social Council resolutions 2008/18 of 24 July 2008 on promoting full employment and decent work for all and 2010/12 of 22 July 2010 on promoting social integration, and welcoming the decision of the Commission for Social Development to have "poverty eradication" as the priority theme for the 2011-2012 review and policy cycle,

Noting with appreciation the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2006 of the Economic and Social Council, entitled "Creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive

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[1] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[3] See resolution 55/2.

[4] See resolution 60/1.

[5] See resolution 65/1.

to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development",[6]

Noting that the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, with its four strategic objectives, has an important role to play, as reaffirmed in the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization[7] and in the Global Jobs Pact, in achieving the objective of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including its objective of social protection,

Emphasizing the need to enhance the role of the Commission for Social Development in the follow-up and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,

Recognizing that a people-centred approach must be at the centre of economic and social development,

Expressing deep concern that attainment of the social development objectives may be hindered by the global economic and financial crisis, as well as challenges brought about by the food and energy crises,

Recognizing the complex character of the current global food crisis and ongoing food insecurity as a combination of several major factors, both structural and conjunctural, which is also negatively affected by, inter alia, environmental degradation, drought and desertification, global climate change, natural disasters and the lack of the necessary technology, and recognizing also that a strong commitment from national Governments and the international community as a whole is required to confront the major threats to food security and to ensure that policies in the area of agriculture do not distort trade and worsen the food crisis,

Affirming its strong support for fair globalization and the need to translate growth into eradication of poverty and commitment to strategies and policies that aim to promote full, freely chosen and productive employment and decent work for all and that these should constitute a fundamental component of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, and reaffirming that employment creation and decent work should be incorporated into macroeconomic policies, taking fully into account the impact and social dimension of globalization, the benefits and costs of which are often unevenly shared and distributed,

Recognizing that social inclusion is a means for achieving social integration and is crucial for fostering stable, safe, harmonious, peaceful and just societies and for improving social cohesion so as to create an environment for development and progress,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[8]

2. *Welcomes* the reaffirmation by Governments of their will and commitment to continue implementing the Copenhagen Declaration on Social

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[6] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/61/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 50.

[7] A/63/538-E/2009/4, annex.

[8] A/65/157.

Development and the Programme of Action,[1] in particular to eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and foster social integration to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all;

3. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the Copenhagen commitments and the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, are mutually reinforcing and that the Copenhagen commitments are crucial to a coherent people-centred approach to development;

4. *Reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development continues to have the primary responsibility for the follow-up and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly and that it serves as the main United Nations forum for an intensified global dialogue on social development issues, and calls upon Member States, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and civil society to enhance their support for its work;

5. *Expresses deep concern* that the world financial and economic crisis, the world food and energy crises, continuing food insecurity and climate change, as well as the lack of results so far in the multilateral trade negotiations and a loss of confidence in the international economic system, have negative implications for social development, in particular for the achievement of poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration;

6. *Stresses* the importance of the policy space of national Governments, in particular in the areas of social expenditure and social protection programmes, and calls upon international financial institutions and donors to support developing countries in achieving their social development, in line with their national priorities and strategies by, among other things, providing debt relief;

7. *Recognizes* that poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration are interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and that an enabling environment therefore needs to be created so that all three objectives can be pursued simultaneously;

8. *Also recognizes* that the broad concept of social development affirmed by the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly has been weakened in national and international policymaking and that, while poverty eradication is a central part of development policy and discourse, further attention should be given to the other commitments agreed to at the Summit, in particular those concerning employment and social integration, which have also suffered from a general disconnect between economic and social policymaking;

9. *Acknowledges* that the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), launched after the World Summit for Social Development, has provided the long-term vision for sustained and concerted efforts at the national and international levels to eradicate poverty;

10. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the commitments made by Governments during the first Decade has fallen short of expectations, and welcomes the proclamation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017) by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/205 of 19 December 2007 in order to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed

development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Millennium Development Goals;

11. *Emphasizes* that the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit, the 2005 World Summit, the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and the International Conference on Financing for Development, in its Monterrey Consensus,[9] have reinforced the priority and urgency of poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda;

12. *Also emphasizes* that poverty eradication policies should attack poverty by addressing its root and structural causes and manifestations, and that equity and the reduction of inequalities need to be incorporated in those policies;

13. *Stresses* that an enabling environment is a critical precondition for achieving equity and social development and that, while economic growth is essential, entrenched inequality and marginalization are an obstacle to the broad-based and sustained growth required for sustainable, inclusive and people-centred development, and recognizes the need to balance and ensure complementarity between measures to achieve growth and measures to achieve economic and social equity in order for there to be an impact on overall poverty levels;

14. *Also stresses* that stability in global financial systems and corporate social responsibility and accountability, as well as national economic policies that have an impact on other stakeholders, are essential in creating an enabling international environment to promote economic growth and social development;

15. *Recognizes* the need to promote respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to address the most pressing social needs of people living in poverty, including through the design and development of appropriate mechanisms to strengthen and consolidate democratic institutions and governance;

16. *Reaffirms* the commitment to the empowerment of women and gender equality, as well as to the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into all development efforts, recognizing that these are critical for achieving sustainable development and for efforts to combat hunger, poverty and disease and to strengthen policies and programmes that improve, ensure and broaden the full participation of women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life, as equal partners, and to improve their access to all resources needed for the full exercise of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms by removing persistent barriers, including ensuring equal access to full and productive employment and decent work, as well as strengthening their economic independence;

17. *Stresses*, further, that effective participation of people in civic, social, economic and political activities is essential in order to achieve the eradication of poverty and the promotion of social inclusion; in this regard, Governments should increase participation of citizens and communities in the planning and implementation of social integration policies and strategies aimed at achieving poverty eradication, social integration and full employment and decent work for all;

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[9] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publications, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

18. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote opportunities for full, freely chosen and productive employment, including for the most disadvantaged, as well as decent work for all, in order to deliver social justice combined with economic efficiency, with full respect for fundamental principles and rights at work under conditions of equity, equality, security and dignity, and further reaffirms that macroeconomic policies should, inter alia, support employment creation, taking fully into account the social impact and dimension of globalization;

19. *Notes with interest* the adoption by the International Labour Conference on 10 June 2008 of the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization,[7] which acknowledges the particular role of the Organization in promoting a fair globalization and its responsibility to assist its members in their efforts, and the adoption by the International Labour Conference on 19 June 2009 of the Global Jobs Pact;

20. *Reaffirms* that there is an urgent need to create an environment at the national and international levels that is conducive to the attainment of full and productive employment and decent work for all as a foundation for sustainable development and that an environment that supports investment, growth and entrepreneurship is essential to the creation of new job opportunities, and also reaffirms that opportunities for men and women to obtain productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity are essential to ensuring the eradication of hunger and poverty, the improvement of economic and social well-being for all, the achievement of sustained economic growth and sustainable development of all nations and a fully inclusive and equitable globalization;

21. *Stresses* the importance of removing obstacles to the realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, in particular of peoples living under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, which adversely affect their social and economic development, including their exclusion from labour markets;

22. *Reaffirms* the need to address all forms of violence in its many manifestations, including domestic violence, particularly against women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities, and discrimination, including xenophobia, recognizing that violence increases challenges to States and societies in the achievement of poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration, and further recognizes that terrorism, trafficking in arms, organized crime, trafficking in persons, money-laundering, ethnic and religious conflict, civil war, politically motivated killing and genocide present fundamental threats to societies and pose increasing challenges to States and societies in the attainment of conditions conducive to social development, and that they further present urgent and compelling reasons for action by Governments individually and, as appropriate, jointly to foster social cohesion while recognizing, protecting and valuing diversity;

23. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations system to commit to mainstreaming the goal of full and productive employment and decent work for all in their policies, programmes and activities;

24. *Requests* the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies, and invites financial institutions, to support efforts to mainstream the goals of full and

productive employment and decent work for all in their policies, programmes and activities;

25. *Recognizes* that promoting full employment and decent work also requires investing in education, training and skills development for women and men, and girls and boys, strengthening social protection and health systems and applying international labour standards;

26. *Also recognizes* that full and productive employment and decent work for all, which encompass social protection, fundamental principles and rights at work, tripartism and social dialogue, are key elements of sustainable development for all countries and are therefore a priority objective of international cooperation;

27. *Stresses* that policies and strategies to achieve full employment and decent work for all should include specific measures to promote gender equality and foster social integration for social groups such as youth, persons with disabilities, and older persons, as well as migrants and indigenous peoples, on an equal basis with others;

28. *Also stresses* the need to allocate adequate resources for the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women in the workplace, including unequal access to labour market participation and wage inequalities, as well as reconciliation of work and private life for both women and men;

29. *Reaffirms* its resolution 64/134 of 18 December 2009 proclaiming the year commencing on 12 August 2010 the International Year of Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding, and calls on all Member States and other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector and international cooperation agencies, to support activities at national, regional and international levels aiming at promoting the ideals of peace, freedom, progress and solidarity among young people in order to ensure social cohesion and youth development;

30. *Encourages* States to design and implement strategies and policies for the creation of full and productive employment that is appropriately and adequately remunerated, and for the reduction of unemployment, and further encourages States to promote youth employment by, inter alia, developing and implementing policies and strategies in collaboration with relevant stakeholders;

31. *Also encourages* States to pursue efforts to promote the concerns of older persons and persons with disabilities and their organizations in the planning, implementing and evaluating of all development programmes and policies;

32. *Stresses* that policies and programmes designed to achieve poverty eradication, full employment and decent work for all should include specific measures to foster social integration, including by providing marginalized socio-economic sectors and groups with equal access to opportunities and social protection;

33. *Acknowledges* the important nexus between international migration and social development, and stresses the importance of enforcing labour law effectively with regard to migrant workers' labour relations and working conditions, inter alia those related to their remuneration and conditions of health, safety at work and the right to freedom of association;

34. *Recognizes* that, since the convening of the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995, advances have been made in addressing and promoting social integration, including through the adoption of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[10] the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond[11] and the Supplement thereto,[12] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[13] the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[14] and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;[15]

35. *Stresses* that the benefits of economic growth should be distributed more equitably and that, in order to close the gap of inequality and avoid any further deepening of inequality, comprehensive social policies and programmes, including appropriate social transfer programmes, job creation and social protection systems, are needed;

36. *Recognizes* the importance of providing social protection schemes for the formal and informal economy as instruments to achieve equity, inclusion and stability and cohesion of societies, and emphasizes the importance of supporting national efforts aimed at bringing informal workers into the formal economy;

37. *Stresses* that poverty eradication policies should, inter alia, ensure that people living in poverty have access to education, health, water and sanitation and other public and social services, as well as access to productive resources, including credit, land, training, technology, knowledge and information, and ensure that citizens and local communities participate in decision-making on social development policies and programmes in this regard;

38. *Recognizes* that the social integration of people living in poverty should encompass addressing and meeting their basic human needs, including nutrition, health, water, sanitation, housing and access to education and employment, through integrated development strategies;

39. *Reaffirms* that social integration policies should seek to reduce inequalities, promote access to basic social services, education for all and health care, eliminate discrimination, increase the participation and integration of social groups, particularly young people, older persons and persons with disabilities, and address the challenges posed by globalization and market-driven reforms to social development in order for all people in all countries to benefit from globalization;

40. *Urges* Governments, with the cooperation of relevant entities, to develop systems of social protection and to extend or broaden, as appropriate, their effectiveness and coverage, including for workers in the informal economy, recognizing the need for social protection systems to provide social security and support labour-market participation, invites the International Labour Organization to strengthen its social protection strategies and policies on extending social security

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[10] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8-12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[11] Resolution 50/81, annex.

[12] Resolution 62/126, annex.

[13] Resolution 61/106, annex.

[14] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[15] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

coverage, and also urges Governments, while taking account of national circumstances, to focus on the needs of those living in, or vulnerable to, poverty and give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems;

41. *Requests* the United Nations system to support national efforts of Member States to achieve inclusive social development, in particular by fostering eradication of poverty, full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration, in a coherent and coordinated manner, and to promote exchanges of good practices in this regard;

42. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote the rights of indigenous peoples in the areas of education, employment, housing, sanitation, health and social security, and notes the attention paid to those areas in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

43. *Recognizes* the need to formulate social development policies in an integral, articulated and participative manner, recognizing poverty as a multidimensional phenomenon, calls for interlinked public policies on this matter, and underlines the need for public policies to be included in a comprehensive development and well-being strategy;

44. *Acknowledges* the important role that the public sector can play as an employer and in developing an environment that enables the effective generation of full and productive employment and decent work for all;

45. *Also acknowledges* the vital role that the private sector can play in generating new investments, employment and financing for development and in advancing efforts towards full employment and decent work;

46. *Recognizes* that priority should be given to agricultural and non-farm sectors and that steps should be taken to anticipate and offset the negative social and economic consequences of globalization and to maximize its benefits for poor people living and working in rural areas, while paying special attention to the development of microenterprises, small and medium-sized enterprises, particularly in rural areas, as well as subsistence economies, to secure their safe interaction with larger economies;

47. *Also recognizes* the need to give priority to investing in and further contributing to sustainable agricultural development and microenterprises, small and medium-sized enterprises and entrepreneurship cooperatives and other forms of social enterprises and the participation and entrepreneurship of women as means to promote full productive employment and decent work for all;

48 *Further recognizes* the need to pay necessary attention to the social development of people in urban areas, especially the urban poor;

49. *Reaffirms* the commitments made in respect of meeting the special needs of Africa at the 2005 World Summit,[16] underlines the call of the Economic and Social Council for enhanced coordination within the United Nations system and the ongoing efforts to harmonize the current initiatives on Africa, and requests the

[16] See resolution 60/1, para. 68.

Commission for Social Development to continue to give due prominence in its work to the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[17]

50. *Also reaffirms* that each country has the primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and underlines the importance of adopting effective measures, including new financial mechanisms, as appropriate, to support the efforts of developing countries to achieve sustained economic growth, sustainable development, poverty eradication and the strengthening of their democratic systems;

51. *Further reaffirms*, in this context, that international cooperation has an essential role in assisting developing countries, including the least developed countries, in strengthening their human, institutional and technological capacity;

52. *Stresses* that the international community shall enhance its efforts to create an enabling environment for social development and poverty eradication through increasing market access for developing countries, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, financial aid and a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem;

53. *Also stresses* that international trade and stable financial systems can be effective tools to create favourable conditions for the development of all countries and that trade barriers and some trading practices continue to have negative effects on employment growth, particularly in developing countries;

54. *Acknowledges* that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger;

55. *Urges* developed countries that have not yet done so in accordance with their commitments to make concrete efforts towards meeting the targets of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.2 per cent of their gross national product to least developed countries, and encourages developing countries to build on the progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help to meet development goals and targets;

56. *Urges* Member States and the international community to fulfil all their commitments to meet the demands for social development, including social services and assistance, that have arisen from the global financial and economic crisis, which particularly affects the poorest and most vulnerable;

57. *Welcomes* the contribution to the mobilization of resources for social development by the initiatives taken on a voluntary basis by groups of Member States based on innovative financing mechanisms, including those that aim to provide further drug access at affordable prices to developing countries on a sustainable and predictable basis, such as the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNITAID, as well as other initiatives, such as the International Finance Facility for Immunization and the Advance Market Commitments for Vaccines, and notes the New York Declaration of 20 September 2004, which launched the Action against Hunger and Poverty initiative and called for further attention to raise funds urgently

[17] A/57/304, annex.

needed to help meet the Millennium Development Goals and to complement and ensure the long-term stability and predictability of foreign aid;

58. *Reaffirms* that social development requires the active involvement of all actors in the development process, including civil society organizations, corporations and small businesses, and that partnerships among all relevant actors are increasingly becoming part of national and international cooperation for social development, and also reaffirms that, within countries, partnerships among the Government, civil society and the private sector can contribute effectively to the achievement of social development goals;

59. *Underlines* the responsibility of the private sector, at both the national and the international levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, regarding not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social, gender and environmental implications of their activities, their obligations towards their workers and their contributions to achieving sustainable development, including social development, and emphasizes the need to take concrete actions on corporate responsibility and accountability, including through the participation of all relevant stakeholders, inter alia, for the prevention or prosecution of corruption;

60. *Stresses* the importance of promoting corporate social responsibility and accountability, encourages responsible business practices, such as those promoted by the Global Compact, invites the private sector to take into account not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of its undertakings, and underlines the importance of the International Labour Organization Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy;

61. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the regional commissions, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental forums, within their respective mandates, to continue to integrate into their work programmes and give priority attention to the Copenhagen commitments and the Declaration on the tenth anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development,[18] to continue to be actively involved in their follow-up and to monitor the achievement of those commitments and undertakings;

62. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a comprehensive study on the impact of the converging world crises on social development, in particular for the achievement of poverty eradication, mindful of the discussion that will be held during the forty-ninth session of the Commission for Social Development;

63. *Invites* the Commission for Social Development to emphasize in its review of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action the increased exchange of national, regional and international experiences, the focused and interactive dialogues among experts and practitioners and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned, and

[18] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Supplement No. 6* (E/2006/26), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/234.

to address, inter alia, the impact of the world financial and economic crisis and the world food and energy crises on social development goals;

64. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly", and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the question to the Assembly at that session.

Draft resolution V
Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,[1] the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities[2] and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[3] in which persons with disabilities are recognized as both development agents and beneficiaries in all aspects of development,

Recalling also its previous resolutions on the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in which it recognized the collective responsibility of Governments to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level, and stressing the duty of Member States to achieve greater justice and equality for all, in particular persons with disabilities,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions, in particular resolution 64/131 on realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities, and resolution 63/150 on realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities through the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,

Encouraged by the outcome of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[4] which calls for enhanced and concrete efforts to realize the Goals for all, including persons with disabilities,

Gravely concerned that persons with disabilities are often subject to multiple or aggravated forms of discrimination and are still largely invisible in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Millennium Development Goals,

Affirming that a role of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which is both a human rights treaty and a development tool, is to provide an opportunity to strengthen the policies related to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, thereby contributing to the realization of a "society for all" in the twenty-first century,

Affirming also that the World Programme of Action and the Standard Rules enhance the policies related to the realization of the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting that persons with disabilities make up an estimated 10 per cent of the world's population, of whom 80 per cent live in developing countries, and recognizing the importance of international cooperation and its promotion in support of national efforts, in particular for developing countries,

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[1] A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation I (IV).
[2] Resolution 48/96, annex.
[3] Resolution 61/106, annex I.
[4] Resolution 65/1.

Concerned that the lack of data and information on disability and the situation of persons with disabilities at the national level contributes to the invisibility of persons with disabilities in official statistics, presenting an obstacle to achieving development planning and implementation that is inclusive of persons with disabilities,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on keeping the promise: realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond,[5] and of the recommendations contained therein, and also takes note of the fact that the report contains options to update the World Programme of Action;[1]

2. *Notes* that the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[3] emphasizes the importance of international cooperation for improving the living conditions of persons with disabilities in every country, particularly in developing countries;

3. *Also notes* that the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities provides comprehensive coverage of the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of persons with disabilities;

4. *Welcomes* the outcome of the High-level Plenary Meeting, entitled "Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals",[6] particularly the recognition that policies and actions must also focus on persons with disabilities so that they benefit from progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals;

5. *Urges* Member States, and invites international organizations and regional organizations, regional integration organizations, financial institutions, the private sector and civil society, in particular organizations representing persons with disabilities, as appropriate, to promote the realization of the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities, inter alia, by explicitly including and mainstreaming disability issues and persons with disabilities in national plans and tools designed to contribute to the full realization of the Goals;

6. *Urges* the United Nations system to make a concerted effort to integrate disability issues into its work, and in this regard encourages the Inter-Agency Support Group on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to continue working to ensure that development programmes, including Millennium Development Goals policies, processes and mechanisms, are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

7. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that their international cooperation, including through international development programmes, is inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

8. *Calls upon* Governments and United Nations bodies and agencies to include disability issues and persons with disabilities in reviewing progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals and to step up efforts to include in their assessment the extent to which persons with disabilities are able to benefit from efforts to achieve the Goals;

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[5] A/65/173.

[6] Resolution 65/1.

9. *Also calls upon* Governments to enable persons with disabilities to participate as agents and beneficiaries of development, in particular in all efforts aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals, by ensuring that programmes and policies, namely on eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensuring environmental sustainability and developing a global partnership for development, are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of the full participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities, including through information in accessible formats at all levels of policymaking and development, which is critical to informing policymakers on the situation of persons with disabilities, the barriers they may face and ways to overcome obstacles to the full and equal enjoyment of their rights, to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals for all, including persons with disabilities, and to their socio-economic advancement;

11. *Encourages* international cooperation in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, including through global partnerships for development, which are crucial for the realization of the Goals for all, in particular for persons with disabilities;

12. *Encourages* Governments to develop and accelerate the exchange of information, guidelines, standards, best practices, legislative measures and government policies regarding the situation of persons with disabilities and disability issues, in particular as they relate to inclusion and accessibility;

13. *Calls upon* Governments to strengthen the collection and compilation of national data and information about the situation of persons with disabilities following existing guidelines on disability statistics[7] that are disaggregated by sex and age, which could be used by Governments to enable their development policy planning, monitoring, evaluation and implementation to be disability-sensitive, in particular in the realization of the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities, and invites Governments to provide, where available, relevant data and statistics to the appropriate mechanisms within the United Nations system, including the Statistical Commission;

14. *Requests* the United Nations system to facilitate technical assistance within existing resources, including the provision of assistance for capacity-building, and for the collection and compilation of national and regional data and statistics on disability, in particular to developing countries, and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with existing guidelines on disability statistics, to analyse, publish and disseminate disability data and statistics in future periodic reports, as appropriate, on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To submit information on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session, with a view to convening, within existing resources, a high-level meeting at the sixty-seventh session of the General

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[7] Such as *Guidelines and Principles for the Development of Disability Statistics* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.XVII.15) and *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.VII.8), and their updates.

Assembly on strengthening efforts to ensure accessibility for and inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of development efforts;

(b) To provide information on best practices at the international, national, regional and subregional levels for including persons with disabilities in all aspects of development efforts;

(c) To submit during the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly information on the progress made towards the implementation of programmes and policies related to persons with disabilities within the framework of existing Millennium Development Goals, as well as on their impact;

(d) To continue to improve accessibility and full inclusion of persons with disabilities, within existing resources, through, inter alia:

(i) Accessibility of built environments, especially the premises at United Nations Headquarters;

(ii) Accessibility of information and services, including greater accessibility of official United Nations documentation and conferences, through the use of alternative formats, such as sign language interpretation, captioning, Braille and easy-to-use texts;

(iii) Employment of persons with disabilities within the United Nations system, agencies, funds and programmes as well as regional offices;

(e) To facilitate international cooperation in research and access to scientific and technical knowledge and, as appropriate, facilitate access to and sharing of accessible and assistive technologies, inter alia, through the transfer of technologies.

28. The Third Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report considered by the General Assembly in connection with social development

The General Assembly decides to take note of the comprehensive study on the impact of the converging world crises on social development[1] submitted under the item entitled "Social development".

[1] A/65/174.